

we got a good look at him, one on either side, and each at a distance of about fifty feet, and he proved himself a Thrasher. The writer was provided with field glasses, and made a complete identification.

My companion was Mr. David M. Macnaughton of Chatham, N. J., who will corroborate these statements. I saw the bird again in the same locality on February 5, and he was then scratching busily in some dead leaves on a south slope which was clear of snow. I was within ten feet of him before he flew up into an apple tree nearby.

He seemed vigorous and contented, and as he has managed to find a living through two very heavy snows and some very cold weather, his chances for surviving the rest of the winter seem good — barring cats. — R. C. CASKEY, *Morristown, N. J.*

**A Carolina Wren in New London County, Connecticut.**— While driving along a well traveled road on the afternoon of Dec. 29, 1909, I had the pleasure of meeting a Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) and visited with him several minutes as he was not in the least shy. The thermometer registered zero that morning, with a foot of snow on the ground. — ARTHUR W. BROCKWAY, *Hadlyme, Conn.*

**Wilson's Thrush (*Hylocichla fuscescens*) a common Breeder Near Allegheny, Pennsylvania.**— During the spring of 1909, I found the Veery breeding quite commonly in suitable localities near Allegheny, Pennsylvania. — WM. G. PITCAIRN, *Allegheny, Pa.*

**Concerning Three Erroneous Georgia Records.**— In 'The Auk' for January, 1910, p. 88, Mr. Ridgway cites the late Maj. Bendire as authority for the breeding of *Molothrus ater* in Wayne and McIntosh counties. But the latter must have been misinformed, as if this species really breeds in those counties the breeding range would unquestionably extend northward along the coast to South Carolina, as the Cowbird breeds far north. It is true that I only spent a "part of a single month in each county" — in May, 1891 — not 1901 as Mr. Ridgway has stated. But a glance at the map of Georgia will reveal the fact that by crossing the Altamaha River from McIntosh County anyone can go into the counties of Wayne and Glynn in less than an hour.

Mr. Ridgway says that "the breeding of the Bank Swallow and Short-billed Marsh Wren on St. Simon's Island is based on eggs actually collected there and positively identified (both by Mr. Bailey and myself)." In his 'Manual of North American Birds,' 1887, p. 463, Mr. Ridgway gives the measurement of eggs for *Clivicola riparia* as  $.70 \times .49$ , and of *Stelgidopteryx serripennis* as  $.72 \times .51$ . If there is a person who can differentiate the eggs of these two species by comparison I would like to know where he can be found!

*In re* the Short-billed Marsh Wren, the eggs collected between the years 1853 and 1865 purporting to belong to this species, were really *albino* eggs

of *Telmotodytes palustris griseus* — a form which often lays colorless eggs, as I well know, having taken eggs as long ago as 1877 of the latter and which are now in the Charleston Museum. Mr. Ridgway gives the measurement of the eggs of *Cistothorus stellaris* as  $.63 \times .48$  and of *palustris* as  $.66 \times .46$ . As *griseus* is smaller than *palustris* the eggs are naturally smaller. The colorless eggs of *T. p. griseus* taken by me in 1877 I believed were representatives of *Cistothorus stellaris* simply because they were white instead of chocolate! If the Short-billed Marsh Wren bred on St. Simon's Island between the years 1853 and 1865 (which is questionable) it would still continue to do so at the present time, as the conditions are unchanged.

While I am discussing these Georgia records it is well to mention that the eggs of Bachman's Warbler (*Vermivora bachmani*) were recorded<sup>1</sup> from Georgia by Mr. H. B. Bailey, taken by the late Dr. G. S. Wilson between the years 1853 and 1865. These eggs were described as "dull white; around the larger end is a wreath of dark brown, covering nearly one-third of the egg; while a few obscure spots of lilac are scattered over the rest of the surface." As is now well-known, the eggs of Bachman's Warbler are pure white without any markings of any color.—ARTHUR T. WAYNE, Mount Pleasant, S. C.

**Birds of Central Alberta.**—In 'The Auk' for October, 1909, appeared a list of birds by myself for this district, and in the January, 1910, issue appeared some comment on the list by Mr. W. E. Saunders of London, Ontario. May I be allowed the space to show where these so-called discrepancies are not discrepancies at all, as will be explained by the following.

**Whooping Crane.**—"A very common migrant, stopping at least part of the summer along the larger lakes. One nest was located which was afterwards abandoned." This statement is correct. I have seen no Sandhill Cranes here at all.

**White-winged Crossbill.**—My notes sent to the 'Ottawa Naturalist' for 1907 stating, "Seen but once," "a pair carrying nesting material in a spruce swamp," are those of 1908. This accounts for my stating it bred here. When a bird is seen carrying nesting material it is quite obvious that it nests in that locality. Where I stated in 'The Auk,' "seen but once" I should have said, "seen but twice."

**Evening Grosbeak.**—My 1906 list states: "Seen but once." My 1907 list, sent to the 'Naturalist,' says: "Seen but once." For 1908 the list states, "Found nest, four birds around most of time, quite common." My 1909 list states "Rare and breeding." As will be seen at a glance, these birds were "rare" during 1906, 1907, and 1909, and quite common during 1908; therefore the conclusion was drawn that the bird, on the whole, should be considered as "quite rare," as stated in 'The Auk.'

<sup>1</sup> Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club, VIII, 1883, 38.